REGISTER OF CLASSIFICATION DECISIONS

Date of entry in Register:	15 January 1996
Name of applicant/court:	Michael Patrick Moynahan
Applicant to the Labelling Body:	Not Applicable
Title of Publication:	Mapplethorpe
Other Known Titles:	Altars
Director:	Not Applicable
Producer:	Not Applicable
Publisher:	Random House
Author:	Not Stated
Format:	Book
Country of Origin:	UK
Language:	English

Components of film originally examined: Not Applicable.

Feature: Running time:

Trailers: Running time:

Total Running time:

Excision/Alteration: Not Applicable.

Reasons(s) for Excision:

Not Applicable.

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Classification Decision:

Objectionable except if the availability of the publication is restricted to persons who have attained the age of 18 years.

Display conditions:

Section 27

That the publication must be publicly displayed only in a sealed package

AND

That when the publication is on public display, the classification given to the publication must be shown on any package in which the publication is kept.

Descriptive Note:

Not Applicable.

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Direction to issue a label has been given on: Not Applicable.

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SUMMARY OF THE REASONS FOR DECISION:

The book represents a collection of some of the artist photographer Robert Mapplethorpe's work. The images contain varied subjects including flowers, religious icons, portraits, marble statues, male and female nudity, naked male genitalia, sexual activity, and sado-masochistic sexual activity. It includes four images of a male urinating into another's mouth and four photographs depicting the infliction of serious physical harm.

Section 14 of the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990 does apply to this publication and any limitations imposed upon its availability must be reasonably justified. Therefore, pursuant to section 23 of the FVPC Act, and having regard to the criteria noted under section 3 of the Act, the Classification Office has given weighting to the purpose of the publication by reason of its context, its character, who it is intended to be made available to, and the nature of its contents. The Classification Office is of the view that the publication should not be made available to younger members of the community. This is due to the explicitness of some of the images of genitalia, themes associated with sado-masochistic sexual activity and the high-impact depictions of the infliction of serious physical harm upon males' genitalia. It is considered that any likely injury to the public good would be reduced by the publication being restricted to persons who have attained the age of 18 years. *Mapplethorpe* is, therefore, classified as objectionable except if the availability of the publication is restricted to persons who have attained the age of 18 years.

OFLC Ref: 9501801